Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSCE-00 NSC-07 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 L-02 PRS-01 SPC-01

ACDA-10 DRC-01 /065 W

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R 151430Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3155

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

S E C R E T NOFORN LAGOS 2482

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, GV, NI

SUBJECT: NIGERIA AND GUINEA-BISSAU

REFERENCE: ADDISABABA 2734

1. IN COURSE GENERAL DISCUSSION FUTURE OF GUINEA-BISSAU, DIRECTOR MEA AFRICA DEPARTMENT OGUNSULIRE REITERATED TO EMBOFF MARCH 15 THAT FMG HAS NO DESIRE OR INTENTION BECOME INVOLVED MILITARILY IN GUINEA-BISSAU. OGUNSULIRE ARGUED THAT NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES TOTALLY UNPREPARED FOR OPERATIONS BEYOND COUNTRY'S BORDERS, AND THAT INITIAL COMMITMENT OF SMALL FORCE CERTAIN TO BECOME OPEN-ENDED INVOLVEMENT WHICH FMG DOES NOT WANT.

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2. COMMENT: OGUNSULIRE REMARKS, UNRELATED TO REFTEL REPORT,

REAFFIRM LONG-STATED OFFICIAL FMG POSITION THAT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SHOULD FREE THEIR OWN TERRITORIES WITH ONLY FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM OUTSIDE. SINCE PAIGC DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE TECHNICALLY FULFILLED GOWON'S PLEDGE THAT ONE TERRITORY WOULD BE "LIBERATED" WITHIN THREE YEARS AFTER 1970, FMG UNDER NO PRESSURE COME MILITARILY TO AID OF GUINEA-BISSAU IN ORDER ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE. NEVERTHELESS, WE WILL KEEP EYES AND EARS OPEN FOR ADDITIONAL STRAWS IN WIND EVEN THOUGH THERE NO PRESENT EVIDENCE HERE THAT NIGERIANS HAVE ANY INTENTION OF DEVIATING FROM THEIR TRADITIONAL STANCE.

SECRET

NNN

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TAGS: PFOR, GV, NI

To: STATE

Type: TE

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